

larvae I have met with have generally been in wood which though decaying was inclined to be rather hard and dryish, and it would appear that they may tolerate a fair range of conditions. Helopine larvae are seldom, in my experience, to be found directly under bark. — A. A. A.]

THE PROBABLE FIRST RECORD OF OCCURRENCE IN BRITAIN OF COLEOPHORA CLYPEIFERELLA HOFMANN. — Recently, while examining the Coleophoridae in the L. T. Ford collection in the BMNH, I noticed a specimen that appeared to conform to *C. clypeiferella*. It was labelled in Ford's handwriting "Dymchurch, 6.8.34, L. T. Ford", and bore a second label in the same hand inscribed "salicorniae at light". I drew the attention of Dr. K. Sattler to it, and he kindly confirmed my determination.

Until now, the earliest known British *clypeiferella* seems to have been the one taken by S. Wakely at Camberwell in 1953 (cf. Wakely, *Ent. Rec.*, 66: 272). However, Ford's Dymchurch example now shows that the species was present in Britain nearly 20 years earlier. — J. M. CHALMERS-HUNT.

POLYPLOCA RIDENS F. AB. FLAVASUFFUSA AB. NOV. — Forewings: ground colour pale yellow with cross markings indistinct and suffused with black; patches of chrome yellow scaling on tornus and in basal areas. Hindwings: colour normal with marginal band reduced. Holotype ♂: Sandy Down, Boldre, Hampshire, taken at m.v.l., 21.iv.1980. The specimen was exhibited at the British Entomological and Natural History Society in October 1980. — R. W. WATSON, F.R.E.S., Watson Trust for Entomology, Porcorum, Sandy Down, Boldre, Lyminster, Hampshire.

MIGRANT LEPIDOPTERA IN S. DEVON IN 1981 — At the north end of Slapton Sands, a single Clouded Yellow, *Colias croceus* Geoff. was seen on 12th August; three more on 14th August, single sightings again on 15th, 17th and 18th, three specimens on 27th, two again on 28th August and one on 12th, 21st and 23rd September. This species is rarely seen here. At the same place, a single *Macroglossum stellatarum* L. was observed feeding on valerian on 18th, 21st and 25th August; also feeding at valerian, 28 Small Tortoiseshells, *Aglais urticae* L. were counted on 12th September and a further 12 the next day. Only single examples of *urticae* had been observed till then.

For *Autographa gamma* L. and *Nomophila noctuella* D. & S., totals here for the usual period, May to 21st September, using a 125 watt M.V. light trap were: *A. gamma* 40; *N. noctuella* 1. These are the lowest totals for these two species ever recorded here. — H. L. O'HEFFERNAN, c/o 15 Green Park Way, Chillington, Kingsbridge, TQ72Hy, S. Devon.

THE BEDSTRAW HAWKMOTH: HYLES GALLII ROTTEMBURG IN THE ISLE OF WIGHT. — I positively identified a single *Hyles gallii* at rest on some low herbage in Great Coombe Wood, Isle of Wight, about 2.30 pm on August 3rd 1981. I observed it for at least a full minute, but was unable to capture it as it flew off rapidly before I could net it. — F. H. CLOUTER, Helice, Glendale Road, Minster-in-Sheppey, Kent.